

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-373-C - ORDER NO. 97-71
JANUARY 24, 1997

IN RE: Request of Cable & Wireless, Inc. for) ORDER APPROVING
Approval of its Tariff No. 2 which) WITHDRAWAL OF
Introduces a New Set of Services to) INTERVENTION AND
its South Carolina Customers.) APPROVING TARIFF
) REVISIONS

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Cable & Wireless, Inc. ("CWI" or the "Company") for approval of revisions to its General Subscriber Service Tariff. The purpose of the filing is to revise CWI's terms and conditions for service and to introduce new rates and service offerings, including a prepaid calling (debit) card.

After notice by the Commission's Executive Director, the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina ("the Consumer Advocate") intervened. Subsequently, the Consumer Advocate informed the Commission that it wished to withdraw its intervention in this matter.

The prepaid calling (debit) card would enable an end-user to place calls which are charged to a Prepaid Calling Card issued by CWI. The characteristics of the new Prepaid Calling Card are set forth in detail in the Company's Tariff. Prepaid Calling Card

balances will be reduced and depleted upon customer usage of the Prepaid Calling Card. Thirty seconds prior to the card being depleted, the user will hear a warning announcing the time remaining on the card. When the balance of available time is depleted, the call will be terminated.

CWI also requested that the Commission waive the surety bond requirement for the provision of prepaid calling card services in South Carolina. Normally the Commission requires a \$5,000 Certificate of Deposit or surety bond to be provided for security when a company wishes to offer a prepaid calling card or debit card service. CWI provided the Consumer Advocate and the Commission with information indicating that CWI has South Carolina revenues in excess of \$5000 per month and additionally that CWI pays property taxes in South Carolina on property which has an acquisition cost in excess of \$484,000. The Commission therefore finds that CWI has a substantial presence in South Carolina.

The Commission has examined the Consumer Advocate's request to withdraw its intervention and believes that the request to withdraw intervention should be granted. Further, the Commission has examined the proposed tariff revisions and believes that the tariff should be approved. Finally, and based on its finding of CWI having a substantial presence in South Carolina, the Commission believes that the bond requirement should be waived.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

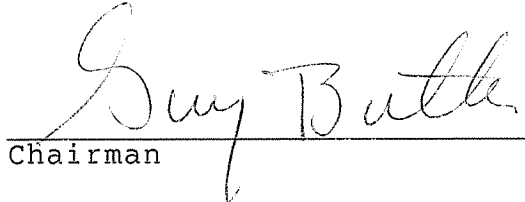
1. The request of the Consumer Advocate to withdraw its intervention is approved.

2. The tariff revisions as proposed by CWI, including the offering of a Prepaid Calling Card, are hereby approved.

3. The security bond requirement is hereby waived in this Docket.

4. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


 Executive Director

(SEAL)